

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is associated with a non-malignant prostatic state.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of at least 12 nucleotides which specifically hybridizes to a PCA3 mRNA associated with a non-malignant prostatic state, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is or is complementary to a nucleotide sequence consisting of at least 12 consecutive nucleotides from nucleotides 27 to 254 of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claims 7-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) A kit for detecting the presence of PCA3 mRNAs associated with a non-malignant prostatic state in a sample, comprising at least one container means having disposed therein the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6.

10. (Currently amended) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule comprising, 5' to 3', a heterologous promoter effective to initiate transcription in a host cell and the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.

11. (Previously presented) An isolated cell that contains the recombinant nucleic acid molecule of claim 10.

Claims 12-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic acid sequence from nucleotides 27 to 254 of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is associated with a non-malignant prostatic state.

Claim 25 (Cancelled)

26. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule consists of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

Claim 27-34 (Cancelled)

35. (Currently amended) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule comprising, 5' to 3', a heterologous promoter effective to initiate transcription in a host cell and the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 24.

36. (Previously presented) An isolated cell that contains the recombinant nucleic acid molecule of claim 35.

37. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid molecule consists of 15 to 50 nucleotides.

38. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid molecule consists of 18 to 50 nucleotides.

39. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid molecule consists of 20 to 50 nucleotides.

40. (Previously presented) A kit for detecting the presence of differentially expressed PCA3 mRNAs in a sample comprising at least one container having disposed therein the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 37.

41. (Previously presented) A kit for detecting the presence of differentially expressed PCA3 mRNAs in a sample comprising at least one container having disposed therein the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 38.

42. (Previously presented) A kit for detecting the presence of differentially expressed PCA3 mRNAs in a sample comprising at least one container having disposed therein the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 39.

43. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid molecule consists of 12 to 50 nucleotides.

44. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid molecule consists of 15 to 24 nucleotides.

45. (Previously presented) A kit for detecting the presence of differentially expressed PCA3 mRNAs in a sample comprising at least one container having disposed therein the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 43.

46. (Previously presented) A kit for detecting the presence of differentially expressed PCA3 mRNAs in a sample comprising at least one container having disposed therein the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 44.

47. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 4, wherein said non-malignant prostatic state is benign prostate hyperplasia.

48. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein said non-malignant prostatic state is benign prostate hyperplasia.